



# The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding

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(CTK: 49 321 58 86 OLAM: 485 342 49 290)

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117(118):2-4,22-27

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**

## MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 23/04/22	12:30 CTK† 18:00 OLAM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	Kevin Berns (Anni.)
Sun 24/04/22	10:00 CTK 10:00 OLAM		Annie McDonnell (Anni.) Lawrence Tams (Anni.) James & Margaret Head (Silver Jubilee)
Mon 25/04/22	08:00 Con. 09:30 Mon. 12:00 CTK†	St Mark, Feast	People of Ukraine Sean O'Callaghan (RIP) Kathleen O'Neil (Get Well)
Tue 26/04/22	09:30 Mon.† 12:00 CTK	St George, Feast	Loreno Torri & family Janis Erglis, Di Piro Family & Rino Claringio (RIP)
Wed 27/04/22	08:00 Con.† 09:30 Mon.	Easter Feria	Dorothy & Denis Eyre (Private Intention) Paddy Curran (RIP)
Thu 28/04/22	09:30 Mon.† 11:00 CTK	Easter Feria	Peter Pearman (RIP) <b>Funeral Service - Elizabeth Bridge</b>
Fri 29/04/22	09:30 Mon. 11:00 CTK	St Catherine of Siena, Feast	Private Intention <b>Funeral Service - Scott Bibb</b>
Sat 30/04/22	10:00 Mon 12:30 CTK 18:00 OLAM†	Easter Feria	Sr Mary Ireland (RIP) Sheila Cassidy (RIP) Grace Deane (Anni.)
Sun 01/05/22	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	John McLoughlin Douglas Kennedy (Anni.)

**Rosary Group:** meeting every Wednesday in Christ the King Church at 3:30pm.

**Bible Study** with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the church of Our Lady of the Assumption every Tuesday at 7:00pm.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, Muriel Cowan, Paul Cowan, John & Sandra Mageean, Gerald, Sarah McCallion, Audrey Vickers, John, Sadie Pulido, Sheila Ferns, Mary McGee, Margaret Gasson, Claire & Mark, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Kyle Billing, Jo Teece, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Alberto Bolongaro, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen, Rose Lewsley and Carol Timmis. Please pray for them and their families.

**RIP:** Please pray for Scott Bibb, Julia Casey, Elizabeth Bridge and Jack Foxall who died recently. May they rest in peace.

**Parish Council meeting** on Monday 25/04/22, 7:00pm, at Maryvale Community Centre.

## ST MARY'S COLLEGE, OSCOTT – TRUSTEES

Oscott College, the diocesan seminary, which forms men for the priesthood and the diaconate from England, Wales, Scotland and further afield, is looking for additional trustees.

The particular areas of expertise which are needed are: Diversity and inclusion, Education and academia, HR and training, IT and digital, Media/PR. Trusteeship is a voluntary role, and is a way to put your skills at the service of the church. If you would like any further information please contact Jackie Hall, College Bursar at Oscott

[jackie.hall@oscott.org](mailto:jackie.hall@oscott.org)

## Gospel Commentary – Fr. Donagh O'Shea OP

The year was about 90 A.D. John's generation was disappearing; none of the younger Christians had known Jesus in the flesh, nor had they witnessed his appearances after the Resurrection. John's gospel wants to include them. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Thomas refused to believe what he had not seen; later he saw and believed. What did he see? Nothing that a sceptic couldn't reasonably doubt. "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead" (Luke 16:30). It takes more than eye-witnessing to make faith. A faith that restricts itself to what is evident to the senses and reason is faith in reason, not faith in God or in Jesus.... Religious faith is not a balance of evidence but an opening of the mind and heart.

Is our faith irrational then? The traditional answer is no: it is not *against* reason, but *beyond* it, nevertheless overlapping in part. There is a strong temptation to remain within that overlap, effectively reducing the faith to a kind of "philosophy for the millions." If a person wanted to discredit the faith, the best way would be to argue weakly in its favour. In rejecting the arguments, people would also reject the faith. Sadly, this is just what we often do.

An argument is like a lock; we talk about 'clinging' an argument. It is always useful to ask yourself what you have won when you have won an argument. What have you pinned down and enclosed, what do you now have in your grip? It can often be a lonely thing to win an argument; you are left with a little patch that you have identified with yourself, and you may have missed the wide world.

The disciples had locked themselves in. Fear was their motive, as it is the motive behind all locks. Suddenly "Jesus came and stood among them." It does not say that he knocked on the door and asked to be admitted: they would not have believed him anyway. It does not say he rattled keys in the lock: that would have frightened them even more. Inexplicably, against all sense and reason, he stood among them; he stood within the tight circle of their fear. Fear is a lock that can be opened only from the inside.

Jesus still stands within the sealed mind, the guarded heart, if we dare to let ourselves believe it.

### Last week's collection CTK

Envelopes	£ 104.00
Loose	£ 396.45
St. Orders	£ 206.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 607.14</b>

### Last week's collection OLAM

Envelopes	£ 121.00
Loose	£ 111.09
St. Orders	£ 33.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 265.55</b>

Thank you for your generous support.

## THINKING OF BECOMING A TEACHER IN PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL?

At Bishop Challoner Secondary Catholic School, we are working with Catholic schools in the Birmingham area to help new trainee Teachers into this rewarding profession. We have Primary and Secondary School Direct places available. We are also offering School Experience Days to gain an insight into life in a school and they will be on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022**. See our website [www.bctsa.org](http://www.bctsa.org) for details, or email [trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk).

## INVITE FROM MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Marriage Encounter England and Wales recognise that the very pillar of vibrant church communities are good couple relationships, leading Christian families to a deeper faith in Christ Jesus. We are therefore delighted to offer the opportunity for all couples to experience a life changing Marriage Encounter Weekend in 2022, in person or online. Our next experiences are:

1. Online Saturdays – 14 and 21 May 2022 and
2. Non-Resident experience on the 11-12 June 2022 located in:

Savio House Near Macclesfield. The Barn, Savio House, Ingeresly Road, Bollington, Cheshire SK10 5RW.

The Marriage Encounter Experience offers the opportunity to refresh, enrich, deepen and bring love back into all relationships. The experience offers precious quality time to support lifelong relationships, personal and spiritual growth, all in a Catholic faith context. The programme is delivered by experienced laity couples and a priest and is supported by the Bishops' Conference.

### Quo Vadis? (Where are you going?)

A series of **three Zoom sessions for university students** on the theme of **discernment**, including a presentation on the life of the *beatus* (blessed) by a speaker working within university chaplaincy, followed by a time of prayer.

- **Tues. 10<sup>th</sup> May – Bl. Carlo Acutis** by Mgr. Marl Crisp (Wolverhampton University Chaplaincy)
- **Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> May – Bl. Chiara Badano** by Alvea Fernandes (Oxford University Chaplaincy)
- **Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> May – Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati** by Fr. Ray Corbett (Aston University Chaplaincy)

**Sessions run 8:00 – 8:45 p.m.** For more information and to register for Zoom links, visit: [www.vocations.org.uk/quo-vadis](http://www.vocations.org.uk/quo-vadis)

### Holy Name School Great Barr - Office Manager Vacancy:

Holy Name Catholic Primary School in Great Barr are currently recruiting a school office manager. Please contact the school office for further information. Email: [headteacher@holynameschool.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holynameschool.sandwell.sch.uk). Phone: 0121 357 3216. The closing date for applications is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## Prayer Intentions during the month of April

**24<sup>th</sup>** - *This Wednesday marks 54 years since the 1967 Abortion Act came into effect. As we hope and pray for an end to abortion, we pray especially for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life.*